

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Marion House and Marion Brothers Store

Siloam, Surry County, SR0863, Listed 12/26/2012

Nomination by Laura A. W. Phillips

Photographs by Laura A. W. Phillips, March 2012



Façade view of house



Store overall view

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property

historic name Marion House and Marion Brothers Store

other names/site number Jubal E. Marion—Richard Nathaniel Marion House; Oakcrest

2. Location

street & number 7034 Siloam Road not for publication N/A

city or town Siloam vicinity N/A

state North Carolina code NC county Surry code 171 zip code 27047

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<u> </u> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> <u> </u> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<u> </u> determined eligible for the	_____	_____
<u> </u> National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> <u> </u> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<u> </u> determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
<u> </u> National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> other (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Marion House and Marion Brothers Store
Name of Property

Surry County, North Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>COMMERCE</u>	<u>specialty store</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>processing</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>animal facility</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>storage</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	<u>rail-related</u>

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>agricultural outbuilding</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	<u>rail-related</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>BRICK</u>
roof	<u>ASPHALT</u>
walls	<u>Weatherboard</u>
	<u>BRICK</u>
other	<u>WOOD</u>
	<u>BRICK</u>

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or a grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1861-1913

ca. 1894 – ca. 1940

Significant Dates

1861

ca. 1894

1895

1913

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Northup, Willard C. – Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 33

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 538870 4015900
2 17 539280 4015920

Zone Easting Northing
3 17 539340 4015420
4 17 539050 4015320
____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization N/A date May 30, 2012

street & number 637 North Spring Street telephone 336/727-1968

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Marion House and Marion Brothers Store
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DESCRIPTION

Materials, cont'd.

Foundation –
CONCRETE

Roof –
METAL
RUBBER

Walls –
Log
CONCRETE
METAL

Other –
WOOD
BRICK
Granite

Summary and Setting

The Marion House and Marion Brothers Store are located at 7034 Siloam Road in the Siloam community of Surry County's rural southeastern section, in North Carolina's northwest Piedmont. The nominated property consists of approximately thirty-three acres on the north side of the Yadkin River opposite Yadkin County. Siloam Road borders the property on the east, and both the River Siloam Road and the tracks of the Yadkin Valley Railroad cut roughly east-west through the center of the property. Inclusion of the railroad right-of-way is essential to the history of the property, for the railroad was responsible for the flourishing of commerce in the village of Siloam – including the Marion Brothers Store – from the 1890s to World War II. From the Yadkin River northward to the railroad right-of-way, cultivated fields take advantage of the rich bottom land. On the north side of the tracks, within the railroad right-of-way, is a collection of liquid fertilizer tanks and a low concrete-block structure associated with them. Although these structures are noncontributing, they have little visual impact on the property because of their location south and downhill of Marion Brothers Store. Although they were constructed ca. 1970 for the storage of liquid fertilizer, their use has a tie with the history of the village. During the period of significance, a warehouse – long gone – for the storage of solid fertilizer stood south of the store. From the railroad right-of-way northward to River Siloam Road, the cultivated fields are still part of the bottom land, although the land begins to rise slightly from south to north, especially along Siloam Road. It is here, on the west side of Siloam Road near its junction with River Siloam Road, that the ca. 1894 two-story brick Marion

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Brothers Store stands. The store's frame privy stands near the store's southwest corner. Behind the store is a collapsed frame shed where tobacco sticks were once stored. All the fields between River Siloam Road and the Yadkin River are still cultivated by the family and are essential to the continued rural setting of the property.

North of River Siloam Road, the land rapidly rises to form a hill, at the crest of which is the two-story frame Neo-Classical Revival-style "Southern Colonial" Marion House, built during three periods: 1861, 1895, and 1913. The house looks out majestically across the bottom land south to the river. The hillside forms an expansive lawn. Two large magnolia trees stand in front of the house, and two rows of cedar trees angle up the hill toward the house from the east and west. Behind the east row of cedars is a row of crepe myrtles. Southwest of the house and behind (north of) it are two large oak trees. Among the many other trees are hollies, maples, hemlock, and Bradford pears.

Spread out behind the house, to the north and west, are thirteen outbuildings and other secondary structures, including a wash house/smokehouse, a garage with a tool room/shop and a pump room, a fish pool, a barbeque grill, a carbide house, two chicken houses, a barn, a corncrib/granary, a tractor shed, two tobacco barns, and a well. The ruin of a log hog house, crushed by a tree in 2010 but believed by the family to date from the nineteenth century, is located northwest of the corncrib/granary. Along with the landscape, including the cultivated south fields, these outbuildings and structures help establish the rural setting of the property. They span in date of construction from ca. 1895 to the 1970s, with most dating from the 1920s through the 1940s. Although most are of later date than the house, they are constructed in the same traditional manner as outbuildings built as contemporaries of the house would have been.

Two drives lead to the back of the house. The current primary drive is paved with asphalt and runs westward from its entrance on Siloam Road just south of a row of outbuildings. The secondary, dirt, drive enters the property from River Siloam Road and runs northwest until it connects with the primary drive.

Marion House, 1861; 1895; 1913; early 1960s
Willard C. Northup, Architect

Contributing building

The Marion House is the product of three primary building periods: 1861, 1895, and 1913. The original 1861 house apparently was a one-story frame dwelling with simple Greek Revival-style details. It had a side-gable roof, two interior chimneys, six-over-nine sash windows, and a center-hall plan with front and rear two-panel doors flanked by sidelights. Surviving from that period are first-story structural elements that are not visible, the two-panel rear door whose sidelights have Xs etched in the painted glass, two-panel doors from the hall to the two first-floor rear rooms, post-and-lintel mantels in the two first-floor rear rooms, and six of the six-over-nine sash windows on the north half of the sides and rear of the house.

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In 1895, the original one-story house was remodeled to make it more fashionable. Chamfered posts with decorative sawnwork brackets, a sawnwork balustrade, and a diamond-shaped louvered vent in the front gable enlivened the porch. A dining room/kitchen ell was added to the west side of the rear of the house. Only the ell and the four-over-four sash dining room windows remain from the 1895 remodeling.

In 1913, the house was enlarged to a full two stories and redesigned in the Neo-Classical Revival "Southern Colonial" style. Prominent Winston-Salem architect Willard C. Northup designed plans for the house, although the house as built has a much stronger Neo-Classical presence than the house on paper, and some interior features, such as the center hall and the two sets of stairs, were modified within a few years of the 1913 remodeling. The present appearance of the house dates primarily from the 1913 remodeling.

The Marion House is a large, two-story, three-bay-wide, double-pile house with a brick foundation, weatherboard siding with plain cornerboards, an asphalt-sheathed, truncated hipped roof with overhanging boxed and molded eaves and a plain frieze, a front hipped dormer, and two interior brick chimneys. On the east and west sides of the main body of the house, the rear (north) rooms extend approximately five feet beyond the front (south) rooms. A one-story-with-loft ell with a gable roof and cornice returns extends from the west side of the rear of the house. Its southeast corner is awkwardly angled inward to avoid hitting the west sidelights of the rear door of the house. The ell has a single, interior brick chimney at the north end. Straddling the roof ridge at the south end is a single room with a hipped roof that connects with the second story of the front part of the house. Extending from the west side of the main house is a narrow, one-story, hip-roofed wing that houses the well within a screened open passage. The well has a square brick base, a flat wood top with drilled holes for ventilation, and a wood frame that rises above the well on its south side to support the pulley system for the well bucket. At the west end of the passage, a narrow batten door leads to an enclosed cooling room, whose interior has exposed framing, wood shelving, and a deeply sunken concrete floor.

The sash windows vary in their configurations. On the first floor of the main body of the house, the south façade windows and the side windows of the east and west front rooms are one-over-one sash. The east and west side windows of the rear rooms and the north windows of the northeast rear room are six-over-nine sash. On the south wall of the east-side projection of the main house is a fixed stair window with a narrow, rectangular, horizontal pane surrounded by small rectangular panes and small square corner panes. All second-floor windows except one are six-over-six sash. The exception is on the east side of the northeast rear room, which is a re-used six-over-nine sash window from the 1861 house. The dormer on the south façade of the house has a double-leaf casement window with six panes in each leaf, flanked by a pair of four-pane sidelights. The windows of the rear ell also vary. The east and west windows of the dining room have four-over-four sash. The west window of the kitchen is six-over-six sash; the north kitchen window is eight-over-eight sash, and the east window of the kitchen is twelve-over-twelve sash,

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although a mullion built on the exterior makes the window appear to be composed of a pair of six-over-six sash. The kitchen windows date from the early 1960s remodeling of the kitchen. The pair of loft windows are six-over-six sash. Most windows at the Marion House have louvered wood shutters. On the main body of the house, exterior doors include the glass and wood-bordered front door, the door to the second-floor façade porch with a glass upper panel and two lower horizontal wood panels, and the two-panel rear door with sidelights. The three five-panel doors opening to the ell include one on the east side of the dining room, one on the east side of the kitchen, and one at the southwest corner of the kitchen. The two kitchen doors have glass in their upper panels.

A two-story, Ionic central portico and a one-story porch with Tuscan columns that nearly encircles the house dominate its exterior appearance. Both the porch floor and ceiling are composed of tongue-and-groove sheathing. Concrete steps with brick cheek walls capped with concrete slabs rise to the porch on the front, on the east side, on west side of the ell, and on the south side of the open passage to the well and cooling room. The Tuscan columns of the one-story porch are arranged in groups of three at each corner, a pair behind each set of Ionic columns of the portico, a pair flanking the east-side steps, and single columns evenly space along the rest of the porch. The porch on the east side of the ell has been screened, as have the west-side porch from the south end of the southwest room to the kitchen and the open passage of the west wing with its well and cooling room. A small section on the south side of the west-wing porch was sheathed with German siding in the 1960s to create a protective wall against which a freezer was placed.

At the north end of the porch along the east side of the ell, a five-panel door opens to an enclosed room, which has wood shelving and a floor that can be raised to provide access to the dirt cellar. Dating from the 1895 construction of the ell, the room originally had a narrow stair that rose to the wood-sheathed loft above the ell. The stair was removed in the 1950s, when a door was cut into the loft from the second-floor bathroom of the main body of the house.

The two pairs of colossal Ionic columns on the portico of the south façade's center bay rise in front of the one-story porch to a classical entablature. The column bases rest on concrete slabs set on the brick cheek walls of the steps. Sheltered by the Ionic portico, a balustraded, second-floor, center-bay porch rests on the roof of the one-story porch. The balustrade is plain, but at the corners are classical posts that rise slightly above the handrail. A photograph of the house taken soon after its construction shows that there was a somewhat fancier balustraded deck atop the portico roof, but it does not survive (The date of its removal is not known.)

The interior of the main body of the house follows a modified center-hall plan. The floors are wood, largely covered with carpet. The 1913 walls and ceilings had beaded-board sheathing, but this treatment remains only in the northwest room on the second floor, the second-floor bathroom, and the enclosed secondary stair from the northeast first-floor room to the corresponding room on the second floor. The walls and ceilings in the other rooms have been

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sheetrocked (date unknown), except for the ceilings in the first-floor center hall, southwest room, southeast room, and northwest room, which are covered with acoustic tiles. Hanging metal light fixtures in the living room, parlor, and dining room were installed in the 1930s, after electricity replaced carbide lighting. Hand-planed two-panel doors from the 1861 house remain on the first floor at the rear of the hall and leading from the hall to the northeast sitting room, or den, and northwest bedroom. Most of the other doors, on both floors, date from the 1913 remodeling and are also two-paneled, but are machine-cut. The doors between the living room and the parlor and between the living room and the hall are pairs of French doors. All doors have the same 1913 surrounds with a lip across the top and bottom of the tall lintel.

A Craftsman-style stair rises from north to south (back to front) in the center hall. Originally it rose from the front, but it was reversed within a few years of its construction. At the same time, the partition dividing the hall from the southwest living room was removed, making that room larger. The reason for these changes is not certain. The stair has a plain balustrade, a molded handrail that is somewhat angular, square newels with angular caps – the primary newel with an applied upside-down cross on each side – and a paneled skirt with pendants and beaded boarding surrounding the stair opening on the second floor. A secondary stair with matching balustrade and newels rises southward six steps along the east wall of the northeast sitting room to the south wall, where a door opens to the remainder of the stair, which is enclosed. From there the stair turns and runs westward, with a final turn to the north, opening through a door to the northeast bedroom on the second floor. An enclosed stair to the attic rises from north to south from the east side on the second-floor hall.

The living room has an unusually fine Craftsman-style oak mantel. The fire box is bordered by a burnished metal band with decorative metal bosses at the corners and is surrounded by square green ceramic tiles, which also cover the hearth. The flanking side posts rise above the mantel shelf and, at the top have a flame-arch design carved into the face. The focal point of the mantel is the overmantel, which features a rural scene created with inlaid wood veneer. Except for the tiled hearth and the firebox, which features the same burnished metal border and surrounding tiles – this time white – the parlor fireplace differs from the one in the living room. The parlor mantel has posts on either side of the fire box that are scrolled in an elongated-S shape. The frieze beneath the mantel shelf and the molding around the overmantel mirror are also curved. Behind the living room and parlor, the rear rooms in the main body of the house have large, hand-planed, post-and-lintel mantels that date from the 1861 house. The second-floor mantels are also of the post-and-lintel variety, but are smaller and date from the 1913 remodeling.

The house has two bathrooms, which may date from the 1913 enlargement of the house, but were definitely in place by 1930. One is accessed from the southwest corner of the northwest first-floor bedroom. The other, on the second floor, is entered from the rear of the hall and

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straddles the roof ridge of the ell. A door from that bathroom opens to the storage loft above the ell.

The ell has two rooms. Originally they could be accessed only through exterior doors to porches on either side, but around 1950 a four-panel door was installed between the northwest bedroom and the dining room. The dining room has sheetrocked walls and ceiling. A five-panel door opens from the dining room to the kitchen. The walls and ceiling of the east, original side of the kitchen are sheathed with tongue-and-groove boards, and the floor is covered with linoleum. The south wall has wallpaper over sheetrock over the original tongue-and-groove boards, a change that took place in the early 1960s, when the kitchen was remodeled and enlarged to the west by enclosing part of the west porch. The ceiling of the expanded area of the kitchen is lower than that of the original part of the kitchen, because it corresponds with the height of the west porch roof. The expanded ceiling is covered with pine paneling, and the walls of the expanded area are lined with a counter and wood cabinets. An island divides the two sections of the kitchen. The kitchen mantel has a paneled frieze and a series of corbeled steps beneath the shelf. It was installed in the early 1960s and came from the demolished Reeves House, which stood on the south side of Hardy Road east of Siloam Road.

Wash House/Smokehouse, ca. 1895

Contributing building

West of the rear ell of the house stands the building that housed both the wash house and smokehouse. Note: Although it is commonly called a smokehouse, many similar structures of the period are actually meat curing houses, where meat was cured by means other than smoking. This is a one-story, two-room, weatherboarded frame building with a brick foundation and an asphalt-covered side-gable roof with overhanging, boxed eaves. On the east side are two evenly spaced five-panel doors. The south door opens to the wash house; the north door opens to the smokehouse. On the west side of the building are two four-over-four sash windows that correspond with the two doors on the east side. On the south side of the building is a single-shouldered brick chimney with a corbeled cap and, west of the chimney, a four-over-four sash window. The north side of the building has no fenestration. Inside, the wash house room has a brick floor, flush-boarded walls, a sheetrocked ceiling, and a brick fireplace. The smokehouse room has a concrete floor and flush-boarded walls and ceiling. Along the north and south walls are wide, built-in tables for working with the meat. Near the ceiling, a horizontal board has been nailed to both the north and south walls. On these rest north-south wood beams, from which the curing meat was hung.

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Garage/Tool House and Shop/Pump House, late 1930s

Contributing building

North of the wash house/smokehouse is a one-story, five-to-one common-bond brick building with a brick foundation and an asphalt-sheathed side-gable roof with exposed rafter ends. On the east façade, moving north to south, are two open garage bays, a batten door, and a six-over-six sash window. The rear of the building has a single six-over-six sash window, the north end has no fenestration, and the south end has a door and a six-over-six sash window. Functionally, the building is divided into three sections. Inside, the floors are concrete, the walls are brick – except for the south wall of the garage, which has tongue-and-groove boards laid over the brick – and the ceilings are beaded board. The two bays of the garage are separated by a brick support post on the east elevation. South of the garage is the combined tool room and shop. It is entered through a batten door on the east side and has a window on the west wall. Adjacent to the door on the south side is the metal cover to a coal chute. The floor is a step below the exterior grade. A built-in wood table runs along the south wall. At the south end of the building is the pump room, which is actually two rooms front to back. It is entered through a batten door on the south end and its floor is slightly below grade. The east room has a window on the east side. Another batten door in a brick partition wall opens to the west room, which has a window on the south side. The pump is in the west room, and a built-in wood table runs along the south wall of that room.

Fish Pool, ca. 1938

Contributing structure

In the lawn northeast of the house is a square fish pool. It has a concrete substructure and an uncut-stone border edge. Near the pool are three low stone benches, each constructed of a single long creek stone set on a stone base at each end.

Barbeque Grill, 1940s

Noncontributing structure

West of the house, a concrete-block barbeque grill with a stack at the north end stands on a concrete slab base. Embossed on small metal door on the backside of the stack is “Peerless Outdoor Oven.”

Carbide House, 1913

Contributing building

Downhill and west of the wash house/smokehouse stands the carbide house. It provided the house with illumination from the time the house was enlarged in 1913 until electricity was introduced in Siloam in 1936. The small, one-story, rectangular, brick building has a metal-sheathed shed roof that slopes downward from east to west. At the south end is a batten door.

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At the north end is a small window opening. The interior has a dirt floor, tar-papered walls, and an exposed-rafter ceiling. In the ground on the east side, approximately midway between the north and south ends, is a metal-lined round container into which the carbide pellets were placed. Carbide gas was created when water piped to the container was allowed to drip on the pellets. The gas was then piped to the house.

Chicken House #1, early 1940s

Noncontributing building

Along the tree line near the northwest corner of the nominated property is the earlier of two chicken houses. In deteriorated condition, it is a one-story, five-bay-wide, frame building with vertical-board siding and pole supports. A metal-sheathed shed roof slopes downward from south to north. A second shed roof set several feet below the main roof slopes downward from north to south and provides a sheltered area across the front of the building. Samuel Hugh Atkinson built the chicken house in the early 1940s and sold the eggs to a hatchery in Pilot Mountain. This was his way of helping the war effort. The building was later used for storage.

Chicken House #2, late 1940s

Noncontributing building

The second, and smaller, of the two chicken houses was built by Samuel Hugh Atkinson for the family's use. It stands southeast of Chicken House #1 and northwest of the Barn. The one-story frame building has a concrete foundation, German siding, and a steeply-pitched, metal-sheathed, shed roof that slopes downward from south to north. Facing south, the front of the building has a broad batten door at the west end. An area east of the door appears to have been open originally, but was later covered with horizontal boards. Each side of the building has a one-over-one sash window. The east side also has a door set between the window and the front of the building. The hand-planed, two-panel door originally may have been part of the Marion House before it was remodeled. There are no openings on the rear of the building. The interior has exposed framework and a concrete floor.

Barn, 1928

Contributing building

The barn stands northeast of the Garage/Tool House/Pump House and southeast of Chicken House #2. Originally, it housed cows and mules; now it is used for storage. The one-story frame building has a center passage plan and two lofts. It has a concrete foundation, weatherboard siding, and a steep, metal-sheathed, gambrel roof with exposed rafter and purlin ends. Encircling the barn beneath the eaves is a nearly-continuous slatted vent. At each end of the barn passage is a large opening with sliding doors – two on the south end and one on the north end – sheathed with weatherboards. The front (south end) of the barn has two six-light

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windows that light the lower loft. Between them, and at upper-loft height, is a larger opening. It is closed with a side-hinged, weatherboarded door. The rear of the barn has a single central opening above the passage door. Opening to the lower loft, it is closed by a side-hinged batten door. The east side of the barn has four small, evenly-spaced, single-pane windows. The west side has four small, evenly-spaced, four-light windows and three batten stall doors. On the interior, the center passage has a dirt floor. The unfinished frame walls have a high concrete base. Batten doors lead to three stalls on the west side of the passage. Hinged wood flaps allow feed to be put in a wooden feed box in each stall. The east side has a single stall at the north end. The remainder of that side has one large stall, now used for storage. At the southwest corner of the barn, a stair leads to the first loft. It has a wood floor, wood support posts and joists, and boxed wood chutes that allow hay to be dropped from the loft to the first-floor stalls. The slatted eave ventilator surrounds the loft. At the southwest corner of the first loft, a wood stair leads to a second, upper, partial loft. Its wood floor runs only through the center of the space between the north and south ends of the barn.

Corncrib/granary, 1928

Contributing building

The one-story frame corncrib/granary stands northeast of the barn. It has a concrete foundation, German siding, and a metal-sheathed front-gable roof with exposed rafter and purlin ends. A double-leaf batten door is in the center of the south (front) end. The west side of the building is the granary. The east side is the corncrib. It is marked by narrow-slatted walls on the south end, above and to the east of the door, and on the east side. High on the east wall is a long, slatted flap with three hinges along the bottom edge. The flap can be opened to allow for the insertion of corn. Immediately north of the corncrib/granary is a round, corrugated-metal silo with a funnel-shaped bottom. Extending down and east from the top is a movable pipe.

Tractor Shed, 1950s

Noncontributing building

Northeast of the corncrib/granary is a six-bay-wide frame tractor shed that faces south. It has pole supports and vertical-board siding, some of which has been sheathed on the exterior with green tar paper. The building has a metal-sheathed shed roof that slopes downward from south to north. Along the south (front) edge of the roof, a narrow shed sloping downward in the opposite direction provides some shelter across the open front of the building. A small shed canopy is attached to the east end of the building. The interior has exposed structural members.

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Tobacco Barn #1, ca. 1900

Contributing building

Tobacco Barn #1 is located east of the corncrib/granary and southeast of the Tractor Shed. It is a rectangular, one-story, V-notched log building with wood lath and red clay chinking between the logs. It has a fieldstone foundation – except on the south side, where the stone has been replaced with brick – a batten door on the south side, and a metal-sheathed front-gable roof with a raised vent along part of the ridge. The roof has overhanging eaves and weatherboarded gable ends. In the 1960s, an open shed with wood pole supports and a metal-sheathed roof was added to the south end of the tobacco barn. It extends approximately the barn's width beyond the building on the west side. The interior was not accessible.

Tobacco Barn #2, ca. 1900

Contributing building

Jubal Marion owned a tobacco factory, although its location is not known. Family tradition claims that the logs used to build Tobacco Barn #2 came from the factory when it was demolished. The rectangular, one-story building stands east of Tobacco Barn #1, near Siloam Road. It has square-notched log walls with sand-colored chinking and occasionally wood lath between the logs. The building has a fieldstone foundation, except on the south façade, where the foundation is brick, and a metal-sheathed, front-gable roof with overhanging eaves and flush-boarded gable ends. A batten door is on the south end of the building. An open shed, added in the 1960s, extends beyond the tobacco barn on the west side. On the interior, several layers of boards – doubled, with spacers in between – run north-south through the building. Two boards run east-west above the first layer, and there are several vertical support boards. Tobacco sticks, upon which hands of tobacco were tied, were hung from the interior framework to be cured.

Well, 1970s

Noncontributing structure

On the eastern portion of the property, west of Siloam Road and north of River Siloam Road, is a concrete-block well head. The square structure is four blocks high and has a flat frame roof covered with corrugated metal.

Marion Brothers Store, ca. 1894

Contributing building

The Marion Brothers Store is a two-story brick commercial building that stands at the southwest corner of the Siloam and River Siloam roads and not far north of the railroad, just above the flood plain. It is the first building encountered upon entering Siloam from the south. The building has a brick foundation, five-to-one common bond brick walls, and a rubber-sheathed roof that slopes gently from east (front) to west. The roof is hidden on the front by a

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simple corbeled cornice and on the sides by a stepped parapet. Three stove stacks rise from the parapet on each side of the building.

The façade has two storefronts divided by a central door that opens to the front stair to the second floor. The façade is slightly asymmetrical. The south storefront is the larger of the two and takes up half the width of the building. The north storefront repeats the design of the south storefront, but is slightly compressed, because that half also includes the central door to the stair. A plain brick post, now painted, divides the two sides of the facade. Because the land slopes toward the river on the south, concrete steps at the south end of the façade rise to a concrete platform that runs along the building like a sidewalk. The storefronts have a metal base – except for the space in front of the north entrance, which is concrete – a metal lintel, and plain metal posts on either side of the north and south entrances and on the north side of the door to the stair. The remainder of the framework is wood. Each storefront has a central recessed entrance with a double-leaf door flanked by splayed sides and two shop windows. A multi-section transom carries across the whole. Each leaf of the entrance doors consists of four wood panels in the lower third and a glass panel above. The splayed sides flanking the doorway and the storefronts all have large glass panes set above a complex, paneled wood knee wall. Each of the windows is also headed by a molded band that matches the upper section of the knee wall. Some of the windows have been covered or replaced with plywood for protection. The ceilings above the recessed entrances are sheathed with beaded boarding. The door to the stair between the two storefronts has six wood panels and is headed by a transom. The second story of the façade has four one-over-one sash windows with rusticated granite sills and two-layer brick segmental-arched lintels. The four windows are not evenly spaced, although one is centered above each of the two recessed entrances. A raised brick stringcourse runs across the facade above the windows, curving upward to follow the lintel of each.

The two side elevations have no windows on the first story, but several small ventilators with decorative metal grills are positioned along the base. The second story of each side of the building has six windows matching those on the façade. The fenestration on the rear of the building is irregular, exhibiting a priority of function over appearance. Along the base are several small ventilators like those on the sides of the building. All the doors and windows have segmental-arched openings with two-layer brick lintels like the windows on the façade and two sides. However, only the first- and second-floor openings have granite sills. The basement level has a window at each end and a loading door on the south half. On the first-story level, above each of the basement openings, is a window. The first story also has a single door with a two-light transom in the center bay that opens to the back stair and a loading door adjacent to it on the north. Because of the downward slope of the land, the first story of the rear elevation is high above the ground. The two first-floor doors must originally have opened to a porch or platform with a stair to the ground, but this feature does not survive. A concrete slab on the ground behind the building may have served as the base to a stair. The second story has three windows:

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one in the far north bay, one over the single door on the first floor, and one set between the southernmost two bays of the basement and first story. All openings, except for the central door on the first story, have been covered with plywood.

On the interior of the building, the basement has both brick and horizontal wood-plank-sheathed walls and batten doors. The first floor consists of two large rooms running from the front of the building to the rear. Each has a tongue-and-groove wood floor, plastered walls, and a beaded-board ceiling. A double-leaf, paneled wood door opens between the two sides toward the rear of the building. The south half, which was the store, has tall, plain, wood shelves attached to the south wall and two windows on the rear. Two sets of enclosed stairs lead to the second floor from the front and rear exteriors of the building, running along the south side of the north half of the first floor. Beneath the rear stair, a five-panel door opens to a closet. On the rear wall of the north half of the first floor are a double-leaf, paneled loading door and a window. The second floor has a center hall with plain, horizontal, plank-railed openings around the front and rear stairs. On the north side of the hall, three doors open to rooms of varying sizes, and on the south side two doors open to rooms, also of varying sizes. The second story is floored with tongue-and-groove boards, and the ceiling is sheathed with beaded boards. The walls include a variety of finishes, including beaded boarding, vertical boards, exposed brick, and sheetrock.

Privy, ca. 1900

Contributing building

Southwest of the Marion Brothers Store stands its privy. A small, rectangular building, it rests directly on the ground, except for a concrete block and brick that add support to the southwest corner. Heavy timbers provide the structural supports and sills for the privy, which has weatherboard siding and a metal-sheathed shed roof with overhanging eaves; unsheathed spaces under the eaves enable ventilation on the sides and east façade. A narrow batten door on the east façade opens to the interior, which has a boxed-in bench with four holes. The walls are unfinished, so that the structural features are visible. Some years ago (date unknown), the privy was moved several feet west of its original location.

Railroad Right-of-Way, 1890

Contributing structure

On May 30, 1890, Richard Nathaniel and Mollie L. Marion conveyed approximately three acres of their land to the North Western North Carolina Railroad for the railroad right-of-way across their land. That same year, the railroad – which transported both freight and passengers – was built through Siloam, on its way from Winston to its terminus at North Wilkesboro. Since 1989, the railroad has functioned as the Yadkin Valley Railroad, a division of the Gulf and Ohio Railways. Commodities carried by the freight line include forest products, grain, salt, and fiberboard.

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The railroad right-of-way runs in a northeast-southwest direction through agricultural fields on the Marion property, between the River Siloam Road and the Yadkin River. The right-of-way through the Marion property measures approximately 625 feet long and 100 feet wide. The track, itself, is metal and is set on and attached to wood crossties. North of the tracks, but within the railroad right-of-way is a cluster of six liquid fertilizer tanks and a concrete-block liquid fertilizer building. Star Milling Company of Stateville leases the land on which they stand from the railroad. The building and tanks are no longer in use.

Liquid Fertilizer Building, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is a rectangular, one-story, flat-roofed, concrete-block building once used by Star Milling Company for the storage of liquid fertilizer.

Vertical Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is the tallest of a cluster of six metal, liquid fertilizer tanks. The round, vertical structure has a convex top. It was once used by Star Milling Company for the storage of liquid fertilizer.

Vertical Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is the second tallest of a cluster of six metal, liquid fertilizer tanks. The round, vertical structure has a shallow cone top. It stands immediately west of the tallest tank. It was once used by Star Milling Company for the storage of liquid fertilizer.

Vertical Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is one of the two shortest of the round, metal, liquid fertilizer tanks within a cluster of six. The vertical structure has a shallow cone top. Once used by Star Milling Company, it stands immediately north of the tallest tank.

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Vertical Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is one of the two shortest of the round, metal, liquid fertilizer tanks within a cluster of six. The vertical structure has a shallow cone top. Once used by Star Milling Company, it is the northernmost of the vertical tanks in the cluster.

Vertical Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is a round, metal, liquid fertilizer tank within a cluster of six. The vertical structure has a convex top. Once used by Star Milling Company, it stands north of the second tallest tank and west of the shortest tanks.

Horizontal Liquid Fertilizer Tank, ca. 1970

Noncontributing structure

North of the railroad tracks within the railroad right-of-way and southwest of the Marion Brothers Store is the only round, metal, liquid fertilizer tank that is horizontal. A short, round section with a convex top rises from the center of the tank. Once used by Star Milling Company, it is the westernmost of the tanks in the cluster.

Integrity Assessment

The nominated property retains a high degree of integrity in terms of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Of the property's twenty-four resources, only one has been moved, that being the privy associated with the Marion Brothers Store, which was moved several feet to the west at an unknown date. The setting – which includes the cultivated fields of the bottom lands of the Yadkin River, the railroad cutting northeast-southwest through the fields, the Marion Brothers Store on the west side of Siloam Road at the center of the village, the rise of land above the bottom lands that forms the historically landscaped site of the Marion House, and the associated secondary resources that are clustered behind the house – is not only well preserved but provides a dramatic vista when entering Siloam and Surry County from the bridge over the Yadkin River to the south. The Marion House is in excellent condition and has seen few alterations during the last century. The contributing outbuildings and other associated secondary resources are in good to excellent condition with minimal alterations. The exterior of the Marion Brothers Store is well-preserved and almost completely unaltered. While the interior, particularly on the second floor, has had some water damage due to a leaking roof, the roof has been repaired, and the condition of the

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building is now stable. The design, materials, and workmanship are of good quality and reflect the periods in which the resources were built. The property's qualities of feeling and association are especially strong, given that it has remained in the Marion family ownership, occupancy, and good stewardship for the past 150 years. Fifty percent of the twenty-four resources associated with the nominated property contribute to its historical and architectural character. This percentage is deceptive, however, for of the twelve noncontributing resources, seven are the ca. 1970 liquid fertilizer tanks and building in the railroad right-of-way that are visually inconsequential in the overall scope of the property. The remaining five noncontributing resources include four secondary resources built by the family in the 1940s and 1950s, after the ca. 1940 end of the second period of significance, and a well head built in the 1970s.

The structures are closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structures. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details, is often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structures. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is likely that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Marion House and Marion Brothers Store were constructed and flourished within the context of the history of the village of Siloam. Located on the north side of the Yadkin River in Surry County, North Carolina, the Siloam community began to develop in the late eighteenth century. By 1837, Siloam had a post office, which was located northeast of the present village center. For most of its history, agriculture provided the economic base for the community. In 1890, the North Western North Carolina Railroad was completed through Siloam on its route between Winston and North Wilkesboro. With the opportunities presented by improved transportation, the center of Siloam shifted southward to the gradually rising land just north of the railroad and the river. Large numbers of wagons hauled tobacco to Siloam in the fall for shipment by rail to the warehouses and factories in Winston. In the spring, farmers from the surrounding countryside loaded their wagons with fertilizer that had been transported to Siloam by rail. The increased traffic to and from the village prompted the construction of a variety of one- and two-story stores and other businesses. The small commercial center at Siloam flourished until around 1940. By that time, automotive transportation had evolved to the point of providing a competitive means of transit for both people and products, and a bridge built across the Yadkin River at Siloam in 1938 made it easier for automotive traffic to move to and from Siloam and the southeastern portion of the county. More and more often, people drove to Winston-Salem or elsewhere to shop, and trucks transported many of the products that previously had depended on the train. The rationing of resources during World War II lessened the availability of many products, providing still another damper to commercial activity in Siloam. Thereafter, Siloam was never again a busy commercial center. Instead, it returned to being a rural village within a large agricultural area.

In March 1861, farmer and small-scale tobacco manufacturer Jubal Early Marion (1827-1884) purchased 149 acres on the north side of the Yadkin River from his future brothers-in-law, and in December, he married Jane Jones Reeves (1834-1870). It is likely that he built their one-story frame house with simple Greek Revival detailing between the time of his land purchase and his marriage. The hilltop setting of that house has remained the family homestead for more than 150 years now. The Marions had three children who survived to adulthood: Mary Lily "Mollie," (1862-1933), Newton Coke "Bud," (1864-1922), and Jeremiah Richard "Babe" (1867-1941). When Jubal Marion died without a will, his three children divided his property into equal shares. Mollie received the home tract. Seven months after her father's death, Mollie married her first cousin, Richard Nathaniel "Nat" Marion (1861-1923). They had only one child, Ola Reeves (1900-1975). In 1895, Nat and Mollie remodeled their house with a fancy porch and added a rear ell. In 1913, the Marions gave the house its present appearance by adding a second

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story and remodeling it in the Neo-Classical Revival "Southern Colonial" style with a two-story, center-bay portico with colossal Ionic columns and a one-story wraparound porch with Tuscan columns. Prominent Winston-Salem architect Willard C. Northup was their architect, although the enlarged and remodeled house differed in many respects from his plans. The monumentality of the house and its hilltop setting with a dramatic view across the agricultural fields to the river were intentional. At the time, the house and setting clearly reflected the Marions' prosperity and status in the community. Today, they continue to dominate the panoramic view seen on approaching Siloam from Yadkin County to the south. Adding to the impact of the whole and cementing the rural character of the setting, the expanse of agricultural fields on the bottom lands leading to the river are still cultivated by the family. The architectural significance of the Marion House extends beyond Siloam to the whole of Surry County. In addition to being an excellent domestic example of the Neo-Classical Revival style in the county, it is the sole example within rural Surry. When Mollie Marion died in 1933, Ola inherited the homestead. In 1923, she had married Samuel Hugh Atkinson, and they continued to occupy the homeplace until they died in the collapse of the Siloam Bridge in 1975. Since then, the hilltop site, with its majestic house, complement of domestic and agricultural outbuildings, landscaped grounds, and agricultural fields has remained in family ownership and occupancy.

As early as 1894, in response to the opportunities afforded by the railroad, Nat Marion joined with his two brothers-in-law, Bud and Babe Marion, in a business partnership. They built two two-story brick commercial buildings of similar design on the west side of Siloam Road close to the railroad. These buildings stood out in Siloam, for the other one- and two-story commercial buildings were of frame construction. The larger of the two brick buildings was known as Marion Brothers Store and housed a hardware store and a roller mill on the first floor and living quarters on the second floor. The ca. 1894 building has a simple design with features more typical of urban, rather than rural, stores of the period, including segmental-arched windows with granite sills, a brick stringcourse, a corbeled brick cornice, and a pair of remarkably intact paneled storefronts with recessed entrances. Over time, the other late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century commercial buildings in Siloam were lost, leaving only the Marion Brothers Store as a reminder of that period from the 1890s to World War II when commercial activity in Siloam flourished. The construction of this substantial brick building also reflects the optimism felt for the community's commercial future after the arrival of the railroad. At the same time, the well-preserved Marion Brothers Store is by far the most architecturally impressive of Surry County's rural stores from the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries and is the only surviving example of brick construction. The Marion Brothers Store and mill closed around 1940, and the building, located on the same tract as the Marion House, remains in the ownership of the descendants of Nat and Mollie Marion.

The Marion House and Marion Brothers Store meet National Register Criterion C for their local architectural significance. The Marion Brothers Store also meets Criterion A for its

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local commercial significance. There are two overlapping periods of significance: 1861, when Jubal Marion built the original Marion House, to 1913, when Mollie and Nat Marion enlarged and remodeled the house, giving it its present Neo-Classical Revival-style appearance, and ca. 1894, when the Marion Brothers Store was constructed to ca. 1940, when the store and mill closed due to diminished commercial activity in the village of Siloam.

Historical Background and Commerce and Architecture Contexts

Located on the north side of the Yadkin River in Surry County, North Carolina, the Siloam community took its name from the Old Siloam Methodist Church, a congregation established nearby in the late eighteenth century. By 1837, Siloam had its own post office, and for some years it was located in the Reeves store on Hogan's Creek, northeast of the present center of Siloam. Micajah Reeves was the first postmaster, followed in succession by Jeremiah E., Richard E., and Micajah C. Reeves. Although never incorporated, Siloam became a vibrant community during the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries. For most of its history, Siloam's economic base has been agriculture, but in the early decades of the twentieth century, it also served as the mercantile center for the surrounding area (*Heritage of Surry County*, 639-640; National Archives and Records Service).

On March 8, 1861, Jubal Early Marion (1827-1884) purchased 149 acres on the north side of the Yadkin River from his future brothers-in-law, Richard Elwell and Micajah Coke Reeves (Deed from R. E. and M. C. Reeves to Jubal Marion). This property had been family-owned since the Reeves's great-grandfather, Samuel Freeman (1725-1796), purchased it in 1771 (Ingram, "Jubal Early Marion House"; Ancestry.com). Thus, the nominated property has remained in the extended family ownership for 241 years, a remarkable achievement. On December 31, 1861, Jubal Marion married Jane Jones Reeves (1834-1870). It is likely that he built his house on a hill overlooking the Yadkin River in the months between his purchase of the land in March and his marriage in December. The house at that time was a one-story, double-pile, frame dwelling with a side-gable roof, two interior brick chimneys, a center-hall plan, and simple Greek Revival-style details. A separate building housed the kitchen and dining room (Ingram, "Jubal Early Marion House").

Jubal Marion was a farmer and operated a small tobacco factory. He and Jane had three children who survived to adulthood: Mary Lily "Mollie" Marion (1862-1933), Newton Coke "Bud" Marion (1864-1922), and Jeremiah Richard "Babe" Marion (1867-1941) (Wyatt, *The Reeves, Mercer Newkirk Families*). When Jane died at age thirty-five, Jubal was left to care for four young children. Wanting them to have a good education, he hired Jenny Veach, from Salem, North Carolina, and Lucy Jurney, a cousin from Iredell County, to teach his and several neighboring children in his home. The southeast room of the house was used as the school room (Ingram, "Mary Lily (Mollie) Marion"; Wyatt, *The Reeves, Mercer Newkirk Families*).

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On June 2, 1884, Jubal Marion died without having prepared a will. The following year, Jubal's three surviving children mutually agreed to an equal division of their father's estate. On October 20, 1886, Mollie Marion received a deed for her third of the property – seventy acres that included the family home (Deed Book 26, pp. 211-212). Meanwhile, seven months after her father's death on December 28, 1884, Mollie had married her first cousin, Richard Nathaniel "Nat" Marion (1861-1923) (Wyatt, *The Reeves, Mercer Newkirk Families*; Ingram, "Mary Lily (Mollie) Marion"). It was during Mollie and Nat's ownership that the Marion House took on its present appearance and the Marion Brothers Store was constructed.

The year 1890 was pivotal in the history of Siloam, for it was in this year that the North Western North Carolina Railroad (now the Yadkin Valley Railroad) – a freight and passenger line – was completed through Siloam on its route between Winston and North Wilkesboro (*Heritage of Surry County*, 640). Prior to the arrival of the railroad and continuing until 1938, a ferry owned by Micajah and Richard Reeves – and later by Nat and Babe Marion – transported wagonloads of produce and other goods across the Yadkin River from the foot of the Siloam Road to Yadkin County, from which the wagons could continue on to markets to the south and east. Nevertheless, rail service offered a greatly improved means of transportation.

On May 30, 1890, Nat and Mollie Marion conveyed approximately three acres to the railroad for a right-of-way across the agricultural fields on their property (Deed Book 26, pp. 437-438). The railroad was instrumental in the development of commerce in Siloam in general and, in particular, its presence was essential to the construction and success of the Marion Brothers Store. The railroad was responsible both for supplying the store with much of the merchandise it sold and for increasing the store's customer base due to the increased number of farmers who came to the village to ship their tobacco to market by rail and to haul rail-shipped fertilizer back to their farms. Without the railroad the substantial brick store would not have been built.

The railroad and its depot were built in the low-lying land north of the river, which proved problematic when the great floods of 1916 and 1940 inundated them (Marion-Atkinson Family Photograph Collection). While the railroad remains, the depot does not. With the arrival of the railroad and the opportunities for improved transportation it provided, the center of Siloam shifted southward to the gradually rising land along either side of Siloam Road just north of the railroad. At this point, the post office was relocated to the new center of the community, and in 1891, Nat Marion was appointed postmaster, a position he held until 1897 (National Archives, "Post Offices"; *Heritage of Surry County*, 640).

Additional changes began to take place in the Siloam community. On a hill high above the river and on the east side of Siloam Road, the Siloam Academy was built around 1892 under the leadership of William Milton Cundiff. Samuel Josiah Atkinson and Aaron Whitaker gave the land for the school, and others in the community, including Nat Marion, provided labor, materials, and money for the project. Some of the same people, including Nat and Mollie

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Marion, opened their homes to boarding students (*Heritage of Surry County*, 640; Atkinson, “Siloam”; Marion-Atkinson Family Photograph Collection). In 1899, the Siloam Methodist congregation built a new church in the village on a lot on the west side of Siloam Road that Mollie Marion had donated (*Heritage of Surry County*, 641; Deed Book 36, p. 400). On the same side of Siloam Road, but downhill from the church, a two-story frame store was erected. The Junior Order, a fraternal organization, met on the second floor of this store, which stood on land owned by the Marions (Marion-Atkinson Family Photograph Collection; Phillips, Ingram Interview, May 29, 2012).

Although there were several small tobacco factories in the Siloam vicinity, including one owned by Nat Marion, an increasing number of wagons – up to 200 recorded in one day – hauled tobacco in the fall to the railroad for shipment to warehouses and larger factories in Winston, and in the spring, the same wagons lined up to buy fertilizer at the fertilizer warehouse located just north of the railroad (*Heritage of Surry County*, 640; Phillips, Ingram Interview, August 27, 2010). This increased traffic prompted the construction of several one- and two-story stores and other businesses, including a blacksmith shop, along Siloam Road above the railroad. Photographs from the 1890s and early twentieth century show that most of these commercial buildings were of frame construction. The two two-story brick stores built by Bud, Babe, and Nat Marion on the west side of the road flanking the Junior Order building were the exception. The bricks for these buildings were made at a kiln on the bottom lands north of the river. Receipts in the possession of Marion family descendants show that the firm of Marion Brothers was in business by 1894, and it was probably around this time that the two buildings were erected. They were very similar in design and had identical storefront detailing. The building on the north side of the Junior Order building was the smaller of the two. A. C. and Oscar Snow operated it as a grocery, but when the River Siloam Road, which ran westward from Siloam Road, was widened in 1960, this brick building and the Junior Order Building were both demolished. The larger brick building on the south side of the Junior Order building was the Marion Brothers Store and was used as a hardware store on the south side, a roller mill that produced corn meal and flour on the north side, and living quarters on the second floor. The miller, Killis Wall, lived there with his family, and for a time, before he moved to Mount Airy around 1914, Bud Marion also lived there (Marion-Atkinson Family Photograph Collection; Phillips, Ingram Interviews, August 27, 2010, March 5, 2012, March 8, 2012, May 29, 2012; *Images of America: Surry County*, 97).

With Nat Marion’s entrepreneurial ventures increasing, he and Mollie made the first significant alterations to their home. In 1895, they updated the house by adding a dining room/kitchen ell to the rear, so that they no longer had to use a separate building for those functions. At the same time, they made the house more stylish by redesigning the porch with chamfered posts and decorative sawnwork brackets and balustrade and adding a diamond-shaped louvered vent to the porch’s front gable (Marion-Atkinson Family Photograph Collection).

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In 1913 Nat and Mollie Marion again remodeled their home, giving it its present appearance. They hired one of Winston-Salem's most prominent architects of the day, Willard C. Northup (1882-1942), to design the house. A Michigan native, Northup studied at both the Drexel Institute of Art, Science, and Industry in Philadelphia, and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1906, he opened an office for the practice of architecture in Winston (Winston-Salem after 1913). Northup played an important role in the development of the architectural profession in North Carolina. In the same year that the Marion House was enlarged and remodeled, Northup and four other North Carolina architects were instrumental in establishing a state chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In 1915, he worked for the passage of legislation regulating architectural practice in the state, and in 1919, Northup was appointed president of the North Carolina Board of Architecture. In 1915 or 1916, Willard Northup and Leet O'Brien formed a partnership, and their firm – Northup and O'Brien – soon became one of the most distinguished and prolific in the state, designing numerous types of buildings in a wide variety of styles (North Carolina Home Insurance Company Insurance Certificates; Fearnbach, "Northup and O'Brien").

Interestingly, except for the general form and some details, the plans and specifications for the Marion House differ in appearance from the house as it was actually constructed (Northup, Plans and Specifications). The reason for this discrepancy is not known. It seems unlikely that, having hired one of the best architects around, the Marions would have switched to another architect. In addition, the family has no plans, correspondence, other written records, or oral history to suggest that another architect was responsible for the design of the house.

Since Mollie and Nat Marion had only one child, daughter Ola Reeves Marion (1900-1975) (Ingram, "Mary Lily (Mollie) Marion"), the significant enlargement of the house to two stories seems unlikely to have been undertaken due of the need for more space. Rather, it is more probable that the house was built to reflect the Marions' growing prosperity and status in the community. In fact, the monumental, Neo-Classical Revival-style "Southern Colonial" house with its two-story, Ionic central portico, one-story wraparound Tuscan-columned porch, and hilltop setting dominates the panoramic view seen on approaching Siloam from the south.

Popular across America during the early twentieth century, the Neo-Classical Revival style adopted many forms and details from the mid-nineteenth-century Classical revivals, only in a more exaggerated manner. The bold style was used most frequently for banks, public buildings, and churches, where it imparted a strong sense of monumentality, stability and permanence. To a lesser degree, the style was used for domestic architecture, where it made large houses seem even larger through the use of a two-story central portico with heroic classical columns combined with a one-story, wraparound, classical porch. The style was typically found in urban settings. The architectural significance of the Marion House extends beyond Siloam, where it has a strong visual impact on the community, to the whole of Surry County. In addition to being an excellent domestic example of the Neo-Classical Revival style, it is the sole example

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within the vast rural portions of the county. All other examples, a small number, are found in Mount Airy and Elkin. Surviving examples in Mount Airy include the ca. 1908 W. F. Carter House (NR, 1983) and the 1913-1914 Dr. Campbell A. Baird House (NRHD, 1985). The early twentieth-century Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House (NRHD, 2007), the 1916 Harry H. Barker House, and the 1914 Martin Simmons House (NRHD, 2007) are located in Elkin (Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 38-39, 48, 92, 94, 99, 146, and 168).

Nat Marion died on September 25, 1923, and ten years later, on October 20, 1933, Mollie Marion died (Ingram, "Mary Lily (Mollie) Marion"). The Marion homeplace was left to their only child, Ola, who had married Samuel Hugh Atkinson on December 5, 1923. Ola and Hugh Atkinson had four children: twins Alese Reeves (died at two-days old) and Marion Nathaniel (died at age two of diphtheria), and Joyce and Edwin Hugh (Wyatt, *Reeves, Mercer Newkirk Families*). Ola and Hugh Atkinson continued to live in the family home until February 23, 1975, when they died in the collapse of the Siloam Bridge over the Yadkin River (Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 248). Joyce Atkinson Feezor (now Ingram) and Edwin Atkinson inherited the homeplace, each owning one-half interest (Will of Ola M. Atkinson). When Edwin died in 1987, his half interest was divided equally between his two children, Graham Atkinson and Anne Atkinson Wilmoth (Estate of Edwin H. Atkinson). Joyce Atkinson Feezor Ingram continues to own a half interest in the property and to occupy it, and Graham H. Atkinson and Anne Atkinson Wilmoth continue to own one-quarter interest each.

While the Marion House continues in family ownership and occupancy, the rich bottom land fields between the house and the river are still cultivated by the family. At present, Benjamin Feezor Venable, grandson of Joyce Ingram, grows corn and soybeans there (Phillips, Ingram Interview, May 30, 2012). This use of the fields for agricultural purposes is an important component of the setting of the nominated property, because it extends the continuum of farming by the family to the present and maintains the rural character that the property has always had.

Of the three Marion brothers/brothers-in-law who were partners in the Marion Brothers Store, Bud died in 1922, Nat in 1923, and Babe in 1941 (Wyatt, *Reeves, Mercer Newkirk Families*). Whether Babe continued to be actively involved in the Marion Brothers Store after Bud and Nat died is not known. However, upon the death of Nat Marion, his son-in-law, Hugh Atkinson, took over the store and, based on his account books, continued to operate it until around 1940, at which time the mill in the north half of the building also ceased to operate (Phillips, Ingram Interviews, March 5, 2012, March 8, 2012).

Several factors contributed to the demise of most of Siloam's commercial activity after 1940. First, while the railroad continued to operate, automotive transportation – the automobile and the truck – had evolved to the point of providing a competitive means of relatively fast transit for both people and products. Adding to this new capability, a bridge was built across the Yadkin River at Siloam in 1938 (*Heritage of Surry County*, 640). No longer were farmers dependent on shipping their tobacco to the Winston-Salem market by train. Nor were farmers

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and other people in the area still dependent on the train to deliver a variety of products to them. With more fluidity in transportation, the need for a commercial center in Siloam diminished. The United States' entry into World War II at the end of 1941 also dampened commercial activity in Siloam, because the war effort lessened the availability of many products.

After the Marion Brothers Store and the roller mill closed, the first floor of the building was used as a tobacco pack house, where women worked to grade cured tobacco. The second floor continued to be used as apartments until around 1970. After that, it was used variously to house migrant workers, as well as archaeology students when Wake Forest University conducted field schools along the river in 1986 and 1987. The building is now used by the family for storage (Phillips, Ingram Interview, March 8, 2012).

Over time, all of the other late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial buildings in Siloam disappeared from the landscape along Siloam Road north of the railroad. Only the Marion Brothers Store survives as a reminder of that period from the 1890s to World War II when commercial activity in Siloam flourished. The construction of this substantial brick building also reflects the optimism felt for the community's commercial future after the arrival of the railroad.

In addition to its commercial significance, the Marion Brothers Store is also architecturally significant in Surry County. Like the Marion House, the two-story brick store suggests an urban, rather than a rural setting. With the building's size, brick construction, and façade details – including segmental-arched windows with granite sills, a brick stringcourse that arches above each window, and a corbeled brick cornice – it would have felt at home in the commercial centers of Surry County's Mount Airy, Elkin, and Pilot Mountain. The interior also reflects the basic features common to urban commercial buildings in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: large rooms running from the front of the building to the rear, tongue-and-groove wood floors, plastered walls, beaded-board ceilings, wall shelving in the half that served as the store, and enclosed stairs to the second floor. At the same time, the building's intact storefront, with its recessed entrances, double-leaf glass and wood-paneled doors, paneled kneewall, and glass transom, is a rarity when compared with storefronts in any of these towns.

That the Marion Brothers Store is found not in one of the county's urban centers but in a rural village is surprising. In fact, the remarkably well-preserved building is by far the most impressive of Surry County's historic rural stores and is unique in being the only surviving store of brick construction. Brick stores once stood on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad in Araret, a community between Siloam and Mount Airy, but they had been demolished by the 1970s. The other rural stores that survive from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are one- or two-story frame buildings. The oldest of these, although it has been heavily remodeled, is the nearby Reeves Store on Hogan's Creek. This two-story store is believed to have been constructed in the 1850s. Among the best remaining examples are the one-and-a-half-story L. Johnson Store near Dobson, the one-and-a-half-story B. A. Key Store near Pine Hill, and the

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two-story Marshall General Store and Post Office in Westfield – all constructed during the early twentieth century. All three of these frame stores have a gable-front roof, a double-leaf entrance, and sash windows flanking and above the entrance (Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 29).

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Surry County, North Carolina

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the heavy black line on the accompanying Property Map, drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'. The nominated property consists of approximately 33 acres of the 59.33 total acres that comprise Surry County Tax Parcel 5932-00-87-8047.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property was drawn to include the Marion House and the Marion Brothers Store, their associated secondary resources, and the landscape features that are associated historically with the built resources and that are essential to maintaining the historic setting of this rural property.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs:

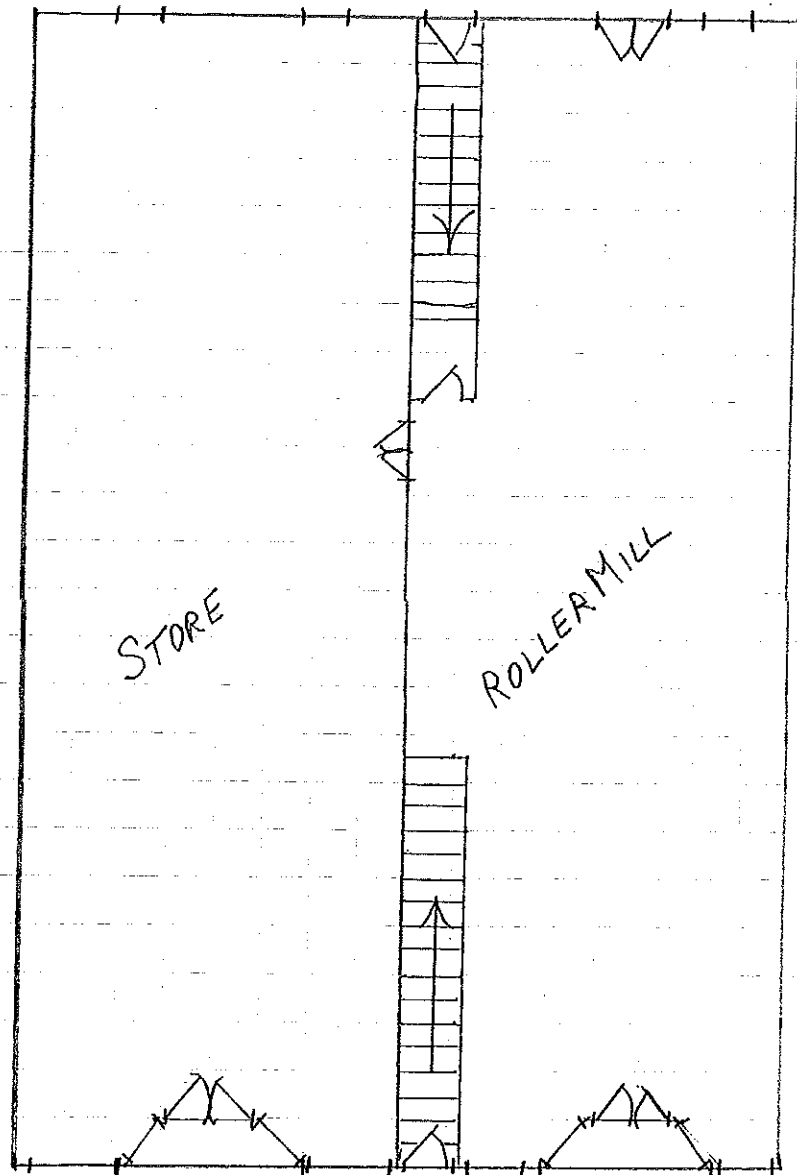
- 1) Marion House and Marion Brothers Store
- 2) Siloam, Surry County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) August 2010
- 5) CD: NCHPO, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 6-7)
 - 1: Marion House, south façade and east elevation, view to northwest
 - 2: Marion House, south façade and west elevation with well/cooling room wing, view to northeast
 - 3: Marion House, east elevation, view to west
 - 4: Marion House, rear (north) elevation with rear ell, view to southwest
 - 5: Marion House, rear ell and west elevation, view to southeast
 - 6: Marion House, front porch, view to southeast
 - 7: Marion House, landscape view to south from front of house showing River Siloam Road, cultivated fields to Yadkin River, and Siloam Road/Siloam Bridge
 - 8: Marion House, exterior door at rear of center hall showing two-panel door and painted sidelights dating from 1861 house, view to north
 - 9: Marion House, center hall stair dating from 1913, view to southwest
 - 10: Marion House, Craftsman mantel in parlor (southwest room), view to northwest
 - 11: Marion House, garage/tool house/pump house, wash house/smokehouse, and well/cooling room wing of house, view to southwest
 - 12: Marion House, corncrib/granary, barn, chicken house #2 and chicken house #1, view to west
 - 13: Marion House, drive from Siloam Road to rear of house, tobacco barn #2, tobacco barn #1, and barn, view to northwest
 - 14: Marion House, east lawn with well, view south to Marion Brothers Store (north and rear elevations), liquid fertilizer tanks, and cultivated fields
 - 15: Marion Brothers Store, east façade and view west at junction of Siloam Road and River Siloam Road, showing Marion House and barn
 - 16: Marion Brothers Store, east façade and south elevation, view to northwest
 - 17: Marion Brothers Store, first-floor, north room that housed roller mill, view to west showing enclosures of front and rear stairs and door between two sides of building

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- 18: Marion Brothers Store, east façade and north elevation, view downhill to south, on
Siloam Road to railroad tracks and Siloam Bridge

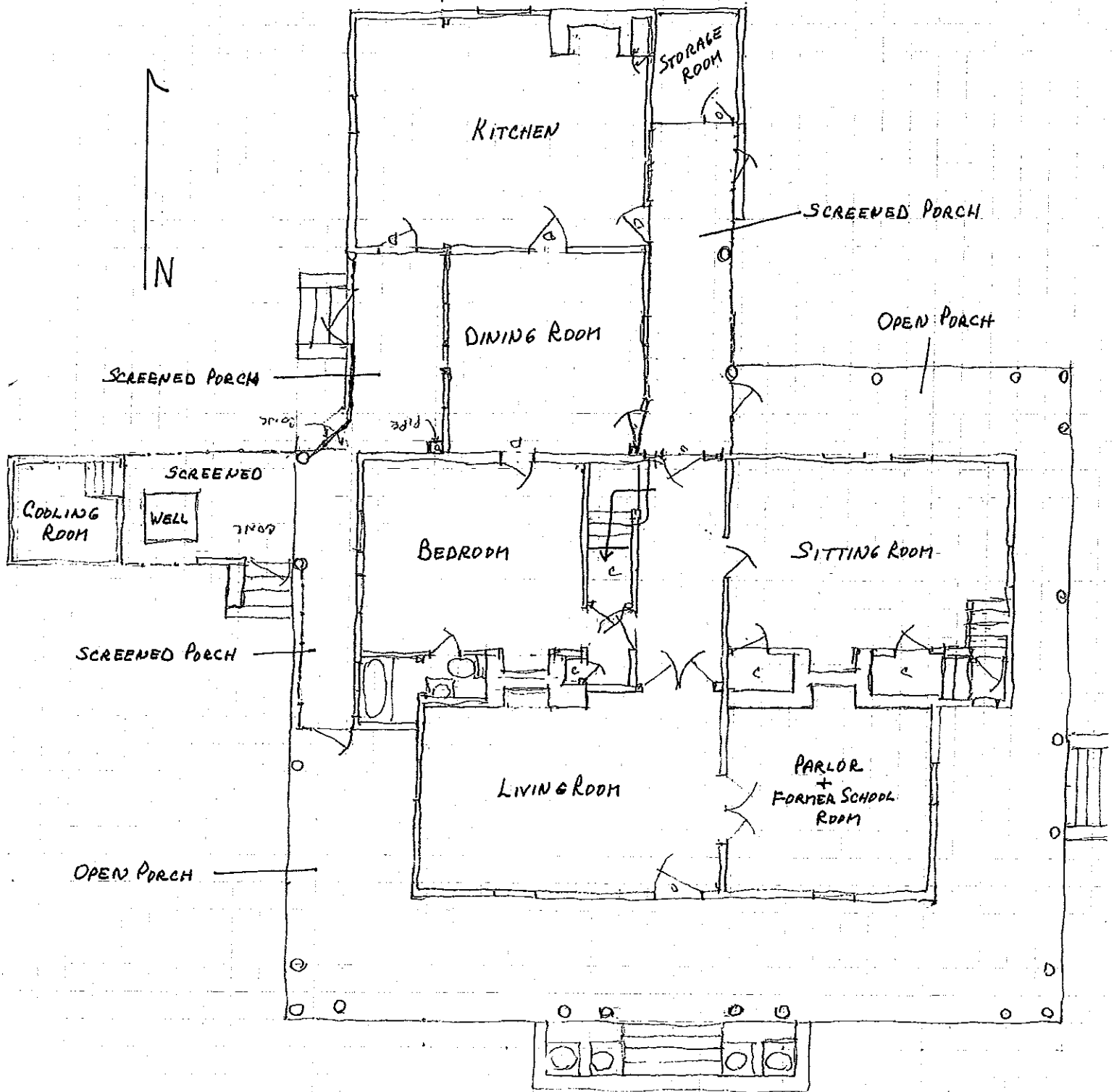


MARION BROTHERS STORE
7034 SILDAH ROAD
SILDAM, SURRY COUNTY, NC

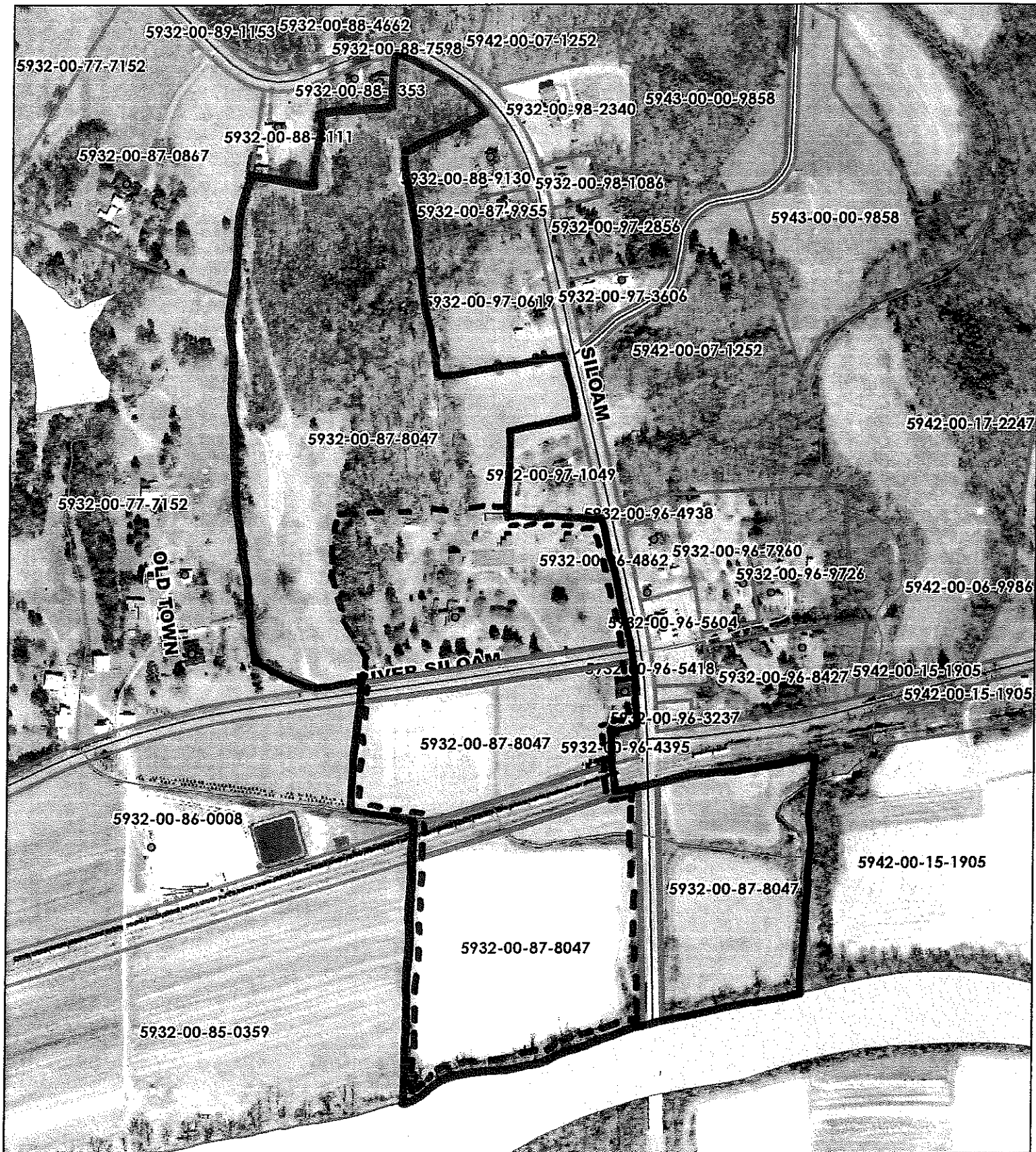
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
NOT TO SCALE

MARION HOUSE
7034 SILDAM ROAD
SILDAM, SURRY COUNTY, NC

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 10'



FLOOR PLAN SKETCHED BY
CHARLES A. PHILLIPS, 3/5/12



Sources:

Data is prepared for the inventory of Real Property found within jurisdictions, and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public information. Users of this data are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the legal responsibility for the information of the data.

Surry County assumes no legal responsibility for the information on these maps.

Cartographic design & digital compilation by the GIS Section of the Surry County Tax Dept.
Using ArcMap in ArcInfo 9.1
Projection: Stateplane
Units: Feet
Datum: NAD83
Zone: North Carolina (3200)

1 inch = 404 feet



TAX MAP

MARION HOUSE AND MARION BROTHERS
STORE
7034 SILLOAM ROAD
SILLOAM, SURRY COUNTY, NC
PROPERTY #5932-00-87-8047



————— OVERALL PROPERTY
- - - - - NOMINATED PROPERTY